

THE FARMERS OF THE STATE

Meet in Convention to Devise Means to Handle the Cotton Crop.

RODDEY GIVES GOOD ADVICE.

President: Wilborn's Address--Every County Was Represented, Except Four, by Good Substantial Men.

In Columbia on Wednesday of last week about 300 representative cotton growers of the State met in convention at the call of Mr. Wilborn, president of the State Farmers' Alliance, to devise some means as to the handling of the cotton crop. President Wilborn, on opening the convention, said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION: I am more than glad to welcome so many of you in attendance on this meeting.

While I am deeply impressed with the importance, individually, of some action being taken in regard to the handling of our great staple crop.

I could not resist the importunities of many members of the organization I have the honor to preside over, to take some official action; therefore, as president of the Farmers' State Alliance I requested a representation of the farmers of the State to meet in this city to take under consideration this great question, which includes the production of three-fourths of the cotton which clothes the civilized world, as well as the manner in which it shall be prepared and placed upon the world's market.

What are the facts? We, of the South are producers of the raw material of the chief article of clothing of the world. No known country can compete with us, we have an acknowledged monopoly of this great staple.

It is a product that employs more people agriculturally in its production than any other single commodity. There is more capital involved in the commercial handling of it than any other article. When our eyes first open to the sunlight we are wrapped in it and laid in our cradles.

We make use of it all the way through life's journey, and when we come to be gathered to our fathers our winding sheet is made of it and we are hid beneath the willows in a bed of cotton. Again I repeat more people are engaged in its production; more capital invested in its manufacture than any other agricultural product; in fact it does more to keep the world spinning than any one article; and yet the farmer who produces this cotton realizes less from it than anyone else who touches it. This is not right, it should not be so, and we wish to set in motion some action that will correct this evil.

If we make an 8,500,000 bale crop let us receive the price it is worth; if we produce 9,500,000 bales let the price correspond. But don't let us be subject to an estimate of 11,000,000 bales, made by an authority whose first and only aim is to work in the interest of the manufacturer against that of the producer. I would recommend that we take some action looking to the calling of a convention of representatives of the cotton growing States early in January, 1898. We have a national commissioner of agriculture who is a cabinet officer and should be the highest agricultural authority on any subject appertaining to agriculture. Let our different agricultural organizations be used, with him as a national head, to collect and disseminate truthful and reliable facts as to the exact status of the growing crop and the estimate of its ultimate results. If we make a large crop we must abide the effects such a crop has on the markets of the world. Our national commissioner may be able to do something if the proper efforts are made, to increase the use of American cotton products in foreign countries, we are all aware of how our cotton trade with Asia has increased during the past ten years. It has been our custom for the farmers who borrowed money, if one did so in January, another in February, another in March and so on, all paper is made payable in October and November. Now, if we can arrange so that a large per cent. of this paper of the farmer shall run for twelve months and thereby become due at different times so as not to force the cotton crop on the market in too limited a time, it would be much better for the marketing of the cotton and for the producers' interests. I have taken the liberty of making these remarks by way of suggestion and will now declare the convention ready for any business you desire to take up. I shall consider any one present who is interested in the growing of cotton as entitled to the privileges of the floor without you rule otherwise. In conclusion, I desire to submit a letter I have received from a prominent cotton broker of New York.

Mr. J. C. Wilborn, Rock Hill, S. C.

DEAR SIR:--No doubt several years ago, you were surprised at my not continuing my plan for organizing the farmer, but as the market immediately began to advance and sold up \$20 per bale and as our object had been accomplished, I deemed it best to say nothing and I would have remained silent, had not in the last few weeks the professional operator begun their same tactics, and are trying, it seems, to wreck the South. Now, I consider it an absolute necessity that we form our organization and show to the world that the South will not submit to any kind of servitude that the balance of the world is trying to place upon them; that the South has a practical monopoly of a product that is necessary to all classes and countries and that they will no longer allow operators representing different sections and countries keep them in a condition of servitude.

I enclose a letter which I trust you will consider and have published in every possible paper that has at heart the South's welfare. We may yet show the world we are not the ignorant and shiftless people they consider us. We must work again; will you have this published wherever you can and send me the address of the presidents of all the Farmers' Alliances in the South. Be glad to hear from you.

Very sincerely,
JOHN T. RODDEY.
Mr. Roddey's enclosure was as follows:
Three years ago, during the present month, cotton touched the lowest price ever recorded on the exchanges. I suggested a

plan for the Southern farmer to control the price of his cotton, and wrote numerous articles and spoke in several places on the subject. A convention was held in Atlanta, Ga., on the 21st of November, 1894, and the plan suggested was adopted. After the meeting the farmers for some time seemed as if they realized that outsiders were gradually grinding them to the dust, and that they would no longer suffer such an imposition, but as the silk professionals began to realize this, the market gradually advanced \$20 per bale, and has remained at a comparatively fair price, until within the last few months and the professionals have been getting in their work.

Had the price remained at a figure where there was any chance for you to make a thing, I should not have mentioned the plan of a trust against them, but I believe if you do not organize and form a combination as is formed against you; that you will forever remain in the depths of poverty. Their interest is diametrically opposed to high prices or full value for your cotton, they are organized and work upon business principles, they combine and force the price of your cotton to a point where you can barely live in order to keep them to make their profits and to keep you in a dependent condition, they want to keep you from organizing, to make you distrust and have no confidence in each other, and to ridicule in every way the idea that you have the ability to organize.

If you realized they were opposed to you you would expect an assistance from them. Has Neil, the Englishman, ever failed to make an estimate that he did not endeavor to drive prices lower, and is not natural that in other sections and countries that have you in other sections should try to keep you there, get your power so far as little as possible and under the present system they will keep you there unless you wake up and decide that you will not tamely submit to an imposition. I want every farmer to speak to his neighbor and urge the necessity of formation. Many may say that this is a scheme of mine to deceive the farmers, but I am a Southern man with Southern instincts and Southern inclinations, and it is the dearest wish of my heart to promote the welfare of the South.

The cotton market has declined \$1.00 per bale during the past two days and every farmer that owns a bale of cotton is out \$1 on account of two days trading in the future market. It is your duty to your children and your wives, that they do not have to carry such a burden all their lives, which you have not attempted to put down. You might fight the battle with fire. If anyone has seen the plan it will be forwarded to him on application.

In the past twenty years the cotton producers have created over one-half the wealth of the whole country and yet the assessed valuation of all the property of the cotton States is not as great as that of the State of New York alone.

Is there any reason for this, is there any sense in it, is there any justice in it? I say to you in all earnestness that if you do organize or perfect some arrangements, you will, although you are blessed by Providence as being the finest section in the world, become absolutely slaves, as you are partly now. Will you allow the price of your labor to be fixed by a people in other sections and in other countries who have no interest whatever in your welfare, but rather the contrary, or will you wake up and show to the world that God has blessed you and that you will benefit by it?

I should like every newspaper in the South that has the South's welfare at heart to publish this letter and to co-operate with me in endeavoring to bring about an organization, that will work and strive for the future prosperity of the South, and resist all the snares laid by shrewd tricksters. It can be done, it is possible, and all that is necessary is for us to get together, and thinking people to act together. No other class or section of country on the face of the earth that has a practical monopoly of the most valuable product that is produced, would sit idly by and allow other sections and other countries that must absolutely have your product fix the price and keep you in a position where you can never hope to improve.

Let us join together and fight the schemers who make ten times as much as you do in trading on your labor and yet save our country and our homes.

If something is not done you must inevitably go from bad to worse, it is undoubtedly in your hands.

After the address was read, Mr. Wilborn said there was no disposition to fight, but fire had to be fought with fire. He was willing and anxious to act and set in motion a sentiment that would result in something; organization was wanted. This was not an alliance organization, but everyone was invited to co-operate in securing right and justice.

J. C. Wilborn was nominated for permanent chairman; R. B. Watson, vice-president; D'Arfy Duncan, secretary.

Dr. Stepp, of Spartanburg, proposed that the association be named the South Carolina Cotton Growers' Association, and so it was named.

At this juncture Mr. Roddey made the following short address:

Mr. Roddey said he studied the question for seven years and felt satisfied the farmers were manipulated out of a living. Large spinners do not worry about their supplies as they can combine as to prices. The professional operator generally took the bear of the market. The lower the price of cotton the stronger the pressure on the creditor. When an operator with \$10,000 can sell the entire country's product it is putting small value on the farm labor. Cotton not yet planted sold yesterday for 5 cents here, next October cotton sold for 5.88 yesterday. That is a fine outlook! The Southern farmers, strange to say, let other classes regulate the price of their products. He proposed to organize a trust if he went alone. He could not see his companions work for \$12. A trust will cost money and he would organize like the Standard Oil company; they are organized against us and why not organize. He was going to organize a million dollar company and would make a success of it. Cotton was \$12 a bale less today than the same day last year. Yet the visible supply was 700,000 bales less.

Mr. Stepp proposed this:
Resolved, That the farmers of South Carolina reduce in cotton acreage to ten bales per mule.

J. P. Murdock suggested that it was better to wait and see what other States would do.

Mr. Edwards, of Saluda, moved that one delegate from each county be appointed, with Mr. J. T. Roddey as chairman, to prepare a plan for organization and work.

Capt. Scott Allan, of Saluda, wanted township and county organizations. He wanted work done and saw much good ahead.

Congressman Stokes, of Orangeburg, wanted to get through the work. Any plan to be effective must involve the whole cotton belt and the individual. All that could be done was to try and get a general cotton growers' convention. Something might then be done.

Mr. E. D. Smith, of Sumter, saw no way to do anything except to organize a cotton trust as proposed by Mr. Roddey, and hold the cotton.

H. S. Lipscomb, of Spartanburg, said the trust plan was the best unless something better could be proposed. He wanted to work to a finish. Mr. Lipscomb wanted to endorse the Roddey plan.

Mr. Edwards wanted something more than talk, and Mr. Hepp wanted speeches limited. Mr. Edwards wanted the previous question. Dr. Stokes said he knew nothing about the Roddey plan, but wanted co-operation above all.

Mr. Roddey states that he had not asked that any plan be endorsed, but was simply called upon to talk, but if the farmers wanted any relief they would have to form a trust.

Senator Butler asked if he could not say a word. He thought that from his experience that nothing would be accomplished without the forming of a committee to prepare some organized business and that he thought Mr. Edwards' motion should be adopted. This should be done and would not conflict with Dr. Stokes' resolution. The motion of Mr. Edwards was adopted, and the following committee appointed:

Abbeville, J. E. Brady; Aiken, R. H. Timmerman; Anderson, J. T. Glenn; Barnwell, L. W. Youmans; Berkeley, J. B. Morrison; Chester, S. E. McKewen; Colleton, R. A. Jones; Darlington, J. A. Muller; Edgefield, M. C. Butler; Fairfield, H. Whaly; Florence, J. W. King; Greenville, J. McEl. Kinard; Greenville, W. L. Donaldson; Lancaster, W. G. Porter; Laurens, J. H. Wharton; Lexington, J. H. Counts; Hampton, B. H. Thens; Kershaw, J. W. Floyd; Marlboro, J. F. Breeden; Marion, J. D. Haselden; Newberry, R. T. C. Hunter; Orangeburg, L. S. Connor; Pickens, H. L. Cureton; Richland, J. T. Duncan; Spartanburg, J. B. Stepp; Sumter, E. D. Smith; Saluda, W. S. Allan; Union, D. P. Duncan; Williamsburg, T. J. Graham; York, A. H. White.

Every county in the State reported representatives except Beaufort, Clarendon, Chesterfield and Horry.

The convention elected two delegates at large and one delegate from each congressional district in this State to represent the State at a convention of all the cotton growing States to be held in Atlanta the second Tuesday in next month. Resolutions were passed looking to planting less cotton and urging co-operation along this line from every section of the cotton-growing States.

One committee from each county in the State was elected by the convention to organize a movement in their respective counties, and that said committee be instructed and empowered to appoint a sub-committee in each township in his county to meet in convention on salesday in December.

EPWORTH LEAGUE FEATURE.

Special Services at Coming Annual Methodist Conference.

The Epworth Leaguer contains the following information of concern to many of the younger Methodists of the State:

Those in charge of the programme for the South Carolina annual conference at Florence in December, have very kindly consented to give us a special session for the discussion of league work. We hope to have the very best talent among our ministers and leaguers to give short and practical talks in behalf of the league work, and trust to have the work so placed before our pastors that all will be impressed with the fact that the league needs their co-operation and support, not that we would have them burdened with all its details, but to lead in the organization, to encourage every move on the part of the young people in their efforts for the church.

"We are unable at present to name the speakers, but we hope to get Bishop Duncan to open the subject. And to follow him will be Prof. Snyder, of Wofford College, Dr. Rice, of Columbia Female College, Rev. W. W. Daniel, of Columbia; Dr. J. Thomas Pate, of Camden, Rev. E. O. Watson, of Orangeburg, and others."

COL MIKE BROWN

Arranging to Rescue the G. A. & W., and Run it to Saluda.

The Charleston correspondent of the Columbia State says: Col. Mike Brown is making a strenuous effort to pull the defunct Greenwood, Anderson and Western road out of its trouble, and when the road is sold at Sievern on the 9th of December, it is said he will buy it in. It is learned on very good authority that Col. Brown has formed a company consisting of some of Saluda county's most substantial citizens and a number of gentlemen in Charleston, who will proceed at once to complete the road as was intended for the charter. As the road now stands it can be completed and stocked for about \$200,000 and it is learned that this amount has been subscribed. More than this amount has been spent on the road, and Judge Simonton's decree fixing the minimum bid at \$15,000 is considered one of the best pieces of luck that could have happened to the company.

From a local railroad man it was learned that Col. Brown intends to connect Barnwell with the Southern near Batesburg.

The completion of the road will open up one of the best sections in this State.

HOLD COTTON.

Advice of Mr. Miller, Just Returns From Europe.

Walter T. Miller, treasurer of the New York cotton exchange, who returned from Europe a few days ago, made the following statement concerning the cotton market abroad:

"I found the general situation with regard to trade and commerce favorable and by no means unsatisfactory, as I understand has been the impression in America for the past month or two. Certainly in England and on the continent just the contrary was the case. As to the prices of manufactured goods, of course buyers decline to buy long stocks as long as the South persists in offering cotton down. When enough of the cotton is marketed to relieve the producer and he feels able to hold some cotton, buyers of manufactured goods and traders in cotton will probably be anxious to invest in both."

Great Britain would rejoice more in the fact that "we are the two great English-speaking nations." If we did not occasionally insist on making our English so much plainer than hers.

SOUTH CAROLINA GOSSIP.

Cunningham Elected President of the A. and M. Society.

REWARD FOR A MURDERER.

Scores Dispensary--Bamberg's New County Buildings--No More Football at Porter Academy.

The annual meeting of the Agricultural and Mechanical society was held last week in the city council chamber in Columbia, L. D. Childs presiding.

The president read his annual report. After congratulating the secretary on the brilliant success of the fair year, and referring to the abundant crops, he spoke of the necessity of farmers organizing to rid themselves of the grasp of the speculator. He spoke of the vital necessity of the farmers educating their children, and of making a reasonable demand from the State for a liberal support of the public schools and an improvement of the system on which their children depend for education, for it is in the education of the white masses that the stability of society and the State depends. He recommends that a committee of three be appointed to memorialize the legislature at the next session for an appropriation of \$2,000 for the erection of a State building designed for the better display of exhibits county.

The magnificent display which has been made by the departments of mechanic arts, agriculture, horticultural and dairy of Clemson college is a demonstration of the wisdom which has planned such a system of education for the sons of the farmers. He thanked the newspapers of the State which have been more than liberal in advertising the enterprise and aiding in every way to make the fair the grand success which it has proven.

He also thanked the railroads, the city of Columbia, and the fair association committee for their liberal policy and the promptness with which they have responded to every request made by the president.

He thanked the officers of the society and their assistants for their valued services in contributing to whatever success is to be credited to their joint work.

In concluding Mr. Childs said: "I would emphasize the protest which I recorded last year against racing as a feature connected with the management of the society. My experience and observation as your president confirms the belief I then expressed, that it is a burden on your finances; that it detracts from the moral tone and influence of your annual gatherings; that it is not in keeping with the avowed purposes of your society, and that your connection as a society with its management should cease."

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, T. J. Cunningham, of Chester; Vice-Presidents, A. T. Smythe, of Charleston; A. P. Butler, of Aiken; O. A. Bowen, of Pendleton; J. W. Watts, of Mountville; J. W. Dunnovent, of Chester; B. F. Williamson, of Darlington; W. G. Hinson, of Charleston; Secretary, Col. T. W. Holloway; Treasurer, George H. Huggins, of Columbia.

The following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That this society extends to the cotton growers of the State their sympathy in the efforts being made to better the conditions at present existing as to planting and selling cotton, and it endorses the action of the convention of cotton growers taken in calling a convention of the farmers of the cotton States to be held in Atlanta.

Eighteen new names were added to the life membership.

The presentment of the grand jury of Greenville county is one of the strongest papers of the kind ever prepared in that county. The presentment was read by the foreman, ex-Gov. W. L. Mauldin, and in part says: The grand jury calls attention again to the Raines coffee matter. Raines was arrested by dispensary constables and a large quantity of his coffee was seized and shipped to Columbia. He was later acquitted in the court, but his coffee was never returned. The grand jury called the attention of the State Board of Control to the matter before, but nothing was done. Now they present that the coffee was sold for 5 cents a pound to a dispensary employe, while a certain party in Greenville had offered 15 cents a pound for it. The grand jury presents that such actions as this are liable to bring into further disrepute an already unpopular law.

Bamberg's new county buildings are fast nearing completion, and the unanimous verdict of the public is that Bamberg has one of the handsomest court-houses in lower Carolina. The jail is a neat and substantial brick building, and it is believed that prisoners will be safe when once lodged within its walls. Both buildings are to be completed by December 1, and the officers of the new county will enter upon the discharge of their duties on the 1st day of January.

The governor has offered a reward of \$150 for the arrest and conviction of the murderers of A. R. Balleger, of Wellford. He was enticed from his house to his store and there his brains were knocked out by the murderer. Some arrests on suspicion have been made, but nothing definite as to the guilty party has been learned.

Dr. A. Toomer Porter, says the News and Courier, has disbanded the P. M. A. eleven, and says there will be no more games of football on the arsenal grounds. An arm of one of the students being broken in a game between the Citadel eleven was the immediate cause of this action.

Globular Lightning. Many scientists have doubted the existence in fact of globular lightning, attributing the existence to some kind of optical delusion. Professor Rigi, of Bologna, however, announces that he has produced it artificially, and that not only has he succeeded in making its motion slow enough to be followed by the eye, but has been able in certain cases to obtain luminous masses which actually remained stationary for sufficient time to be photographed.

P. A. Gardner has been arrested in Savannah for running a stock exchange or, rather, "bucket shop" on the charge of breach of trust.

FATHER HAS SOLD HIS WHEAT.

There is nothing too good for us now, I shall have a new seakins sacque, And Johnny is going to get him a horse That can pass anything on the track; And as soon as the dicker is made I shall have a piano to play.

Everybody's polite and clever and kind Since father has sold his wheat! We'll build a new house in the spring, And we'll store the old organ away, And as soon as the dicker is made I shall have a piano to play.

The fellows are coming in droves And life is deliciously sweet-- Oh, every one seems just too lovely to us Since father has sold his wheat!

—Cleveland Leader.

PITH AND POINT.

A boy being asked what was the plural of a penny, very promptly replied, "Two-pence."—Tit-Bits.

"So she refused you, did she?" "Well, no—simply catalogued me, and hung me on the line."—Harper's Bazar.

"I feel more and more every day that life is real, life is earnest." "Oh, go on! You've been playing golf."—Philadelphia North-American.

"Is your baby intelligent?" "Intelligent! Why, if she wasn't she'd never be able to understand the language my wife talks to her."—Tit-Bits.

Wife—"John, there's a burglar in the house!" John, (fervently)—"Thank goodness he is not out in the woodshed—my wheel is out there!"—Puck.

Husband—"My friend hardly recognized you to-day." Wife—"That's strange, for I wore the same hat you bought for me three years ago."—Pfliegende Blätter.

Jabbers—"I woke up last night and found a burglar in my room." Havers—"Catch him?" Jabbers—"Certainly not. I'm not making a collection of burglars."—Puck.

Critic—"The great trouble about pictures nowadays is—" Artist—"That no one that has money enough to buy one has taste enough to want one."—Brooklyn Life.

Teaspoon—"Why are you so angry at the doctor?" Mrs. Teaspoon—"When I told him I had a terribly tired feeling, he told me to show him my tongue."—Household Words.

"Todd, your wife has a voice like velvet." "Gracious! Don't talk so loud. If she should hear that, I would have to get her a lot of gowns to match it."—Chicago Record.

"Suicide," said the emphatic man, "is the last thing I would do." "Yes," replied the solemn one, "those who commit suicide seldom do anything more."—Philadelphia North-American.

Graham—"Speaking of Mortimer, his wife is considered quite a good judge of music, isn't she?" Morgan—"I believe so. 'T'ny rate, Mortimer never plays at home."—Boston Transcript.

"I can tell everything that man writes," remarked the discerning citizen. "How?" "If it's poetry he begins each sentence with 'O,' and if it's prose he begins it with 'I.'"—Washington Star.

A—"My wife says she saw the lights all burning in your house as she came home from the ball at 3 o'clock in the morning. She thought it a little strange." B—"A little strange? It was a little stranger."—Tit-Bits.

Mrs. Grady—"Mrs. Kelly, the way your daughters bang that pianney av yours from morning till night is something outrageous!" Mrs. Kelly—"Resht aisy, Mrs. Grady—resht aisy! Ut's an old wan, and they can't hur-r-ré it!"—Puck.

"Madam," said Meandering Mike, who had been pleading in vain, "ef nothin' else'll move ye, I'm willin' to do anythin' yer say in the way of odd jobs fur me breakfast." "All right; there's some wood that needs chopping." He looked at it for a moment and then turning away said: "No, I'm a man of my word, an' I sticks to the letter of me proposal. I said 'odd jobs; an' there ain't nothin' more common an' ordinary than choppin' wood.'"—Washington Star.

A "Queer" Preacher.

The Rev. Mr. Hagamora, to whose memory a slab has been placed in the church at Catehoge, Leicestershire, England, was "a little queer," says the St. Louis Republic. It seems that the reverend gentleman died in January, 1886, leaving all of his property, valued at \$3500, to a railroad porter.

The queer old preacher kept one servant of each sex, whom he locked up every night. His last employment of an evening was to go the rounds of his premises, let loose the dog and fire off his gun. He lost his life in a curious manner. Starting out to let out his dog, he lost his life in a curious manner. The servants heard his cries, but being locked up could not render assistance, so the old man drowned.

When the inventory of his property was taken he was found to be the owner of 80 gowns, 100 pairs of trousers, 100 pairs of boots, 400 pairs of shoes, 80 wigs (although he had plenty of natural hair), 50 dogs, 96 wagons and carts, 30 wheelbarrows, 249 razors, 80 ploughs, 50 saddles and 222 pick-axes and shovels. He surely was "a little queer."

Globular Lightning.

Many scientists have doubted the existence in fact of globular lightning, attributing the existence to some kind of optical delusion. Professor Rigi, of Bologna, however, announces that he has produced it artificially, and that not only has he succeeded in making its motion slow enough to be followed by the eye, but has been able in certain cases to obtain luminous masses which actually remained stationary for sufficient time to be photographed.

GIVE US GOOD ROADS!

The Cry of the People Heard and Answered.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM.

A Permanent Organization of the Good Roads Convention Perfected. The Work in Detail.

The Good Roads Convention met in Columbia in the Supreme Court room, on Wednesday of last week, and the following is a brief summary of the work done: Supervisor King, of Darlington, who issued the call for the convention, called the meeting to order. He briefly told of the motives which prompted him to call the convention and expressed his gratification at the manner in which it had been responded to. He then suggested that a temporary organization be perfected.

This was done by calling Mr. J. E. Breazeale, of Anderson, to the chair. Mr. Breazeale expressed his gratification of the house bestowed on him and briefly outlined the work of the convention. One of the most important things that this body would have to do, he thought, would be to memorialize the legislature to make a uniform road law for the entire State which would provide for a systematic manner of road improvement.

When this brief review of what the convention's work should be was finished, Mr. Breazeale suggested that the nomination of a secretary was in order. Mr. C. C. Wilson, of Columbia, was elected temporary secretary.

Among the principal speakers were: Gen. Roy Stone, United States road commissioner, Prof. J. A. Holmes, State geologist of North Carolina. Twenty-eight counties were represented by solid business men. The representatives of the different counties gave their experience in road work. The committee on order of business made their report as follows, which was adopted: First—Reports of progress from counties.

Second—Propositions of amendments of road laws and general discussion.

Third—This convention to resolve itself into the South Carolina Good Roads Association.

Fourth—Each county delegation present to report within ten days a name for the vice-president of the association for their county.

Fifth—A committee of ten be chosen separately by this convention to report within thirty days a permanent organization to draft a constitution and by-laws for its government and to call a meeting of the association at its discretion; also to fill all vacancies in county vice-presidencies.

Sixth—The county vice-presidents to organize county branches of the association in their respective localities.

Mr. Whitmore, of Greenville, offered the following: Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention, that the Legislature amend the present road law of the State so that the limit of the term of convicts in county chain-gangs shall be ten years instead of three years, as prescribed by the law at present.

This was adopted. This, by Mr. Stuckey, of Sumter, was adopted.

Resolved, That the Legislature be requested to so alter the law as to give the supervisors of the several counties the exclusive power of appointing and discharging the overseer and guard of the county chain-gang.

A motion that a committee of one from each county be appointed to memorialize the legislature to pass a wide-tire law was referred to the permanent organization.

The following offered by Mr. Mitchell, of Charleston, was adopted: Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by this convention to draft an act for the creation of a road commission for this State by the legislature, and report at the first meeting of the organization.

The committee of ten for perfecting the organization was elected as follows: M. L. Donaldson, of Greenville, W. P. Snelgrove, of Anderson, W. S. King, of Darlington, W. P. Cantwell, of Charleston, J. B. Kilgore, of Spartanburg, F. H. Hyatt, of Richland, A. H. White, of York, M. B. McSweeney, of Hampton, T. M. Littlejohn, of Cherokee, and J. F. Breeden, of Marlboro.

Gen. Butler's interest in this movement is already known throughout the State. His several newspaper contributions have embodied his views so thoroughly that it is hardly necessary to repeat what he said.

He advocated the establishment of a State bureau of road improvement. It would not do to let this movement stop short of that. United action of the State was necessary for uniform improvement of all the roads.

The permanent organization appointed a committee to draw up a constitution and by-laws which will be reported at a meeting to be held the first Thursday in December at 5 p. m. in Columbia.

The convention then adjourned sine die.

Tricks of Horse Traders.

There are tricks in all trades, but horse trades appear to have more than their share. A new dodge in that line is reported from Philadelphia. The proprietor of an uptown hotel in that city patronized largely by agriculturists was very anxious to sell a horse to a friend from the country, but the latter had some doubt as to the animal's speed. The two agreed upon a certain day for a drive in the park, and in the meantime the hotel man had not been idle. They were bowling along at a pace which was scarcely calculated to create any excitement when a park guard, who had previously been "axed," arrested the owner of the horse for driving faster than the allowed 3:00 gate. He willingly paid his fine of \$5, and his companion was so impressed by the occurrence that he immediately purchased the horse.